The Petal Paper

VOL. 4, NUMBER 20 SINGLE COPY TEN CENTS THURSDAY, MARCH 28, 1957

East Side

By P. D.

In view of the fact that a number of new subscribers have been added to the mailing list since the issue of March 14th, in which the address made at Dillard University was printed, it may be a little unfair to discuss the matter at this time, However, I will be glad to send a copy of the speech to anyone who would care to have it . . . for free, too.

But back to the speech. On March 17th my friend of long standing, Doc Hulsey at the University of Alabama, wrote to me as follows:

Dear P. D.:

Have just perused this week's Petal Paper:

1. Are you stuck in a rut?
2. Did you run out of cash and have to use the same mats you've run twice?
3. Maybe you're checking up to see if we actually read your stuff?
4. Sparkle, Boy! Sparkle!
5. I know you've run out of venom!

We enjoyed having you—How did the speech actually come out? I read the paper. Give me

CLAUDE PITTMAN

Claude Pittman In Mayor's Race In Hattiesburg

Claude Pittman has announced as a candidate for mayor of Hattiesburg in the primaries in May.

His announcement follows:

For several weeks I have been considering the question of whether I should enter the race for mayor of our City. That I desire to serve you in this high office is evidenced by the fact that I have heretofore submitted my candidacy to you. You gave me a very fine vote which I deeply appreciate.

How To Solve The Segregation Problem— The Golden "Out-Of-Order" Plan

(For sometime now we have considered Harry Golden as one of our favorite editors. Harry has The Carolina Israelite, Charlotte, N. C., which sells for $2.00 per year. (No extra charge for the commercial.) This week TIME magazine did a feature on Harry. We would like to call it to your attention. Of course, never mind buying a copy of TIME, just read it at the news stand and subscribe to Harry's paper. Take our word for it, the two bucks will be well spent. The Editor.)

While I still have faith in THE GOLDEN VERTICAL NEGRO PLAN, which I announced last summer, I have found it difficult to get a School Board to try it;— (take the seats out of the classrooms, and let the kids stand, since no one pays the slightest attention to a vertical Negro.)

Now, however, I am on much firmer ground. This time I submitted my plan to a successful test, and I am ready to formally announce—THE GOLDEN "OUT-OF-ORDER" PLAN.

I tried my Plan in a city of North Carolina where the Negroes represent thirty-nine per cent of the population.

I prevailed upon the manager of a department store to shut the water off in his "white" water fountain and put up a sign, "Out-of-order". For the first day or two the "whites" were hesitant, but little by little they began to drink out of the water fountain belonging to the "colored";—and by the end of the third week everybody was drinking the "segregated" water; with not a single, solitary complaint to date.

I believe the test is of such sociological significance that the Governor should appoint a special committee of two members of the House and two Senators to investigate the GOLDEN "OUT-OF-ORDER' PLAN. We kept daily reports on the use of the unsegregated water fountain which should be of great value to this committee. This may be the answer to the necessary uplifting of the "white" morale. It is possible that the "whites" may accept desegregation if they were assured that the segregated facilities still exist, albeit, "Out-of-Order".

As I see it now the key to my Plan is to keep the "Out-of-Order" sign up for at least two years. We must do this thing gradually.

As Harry Golden Sees

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We enjoyed having you—How did the speech actually come out? I read the paper. Give me your impressions of the audience. I'm personally curious as to your size-up of the group.

If my pre-speech guess as to impression, impact, effect and ability to absorb was more than 15% off, which way did I miss?

Give our regards and sympathy to Billie and Karen.

(signed) Doc.

I answered as best I could as follows:

Dear Pappy:

Let's take the visiting part first, in view of the fact that it makes for free meals, and especially for free coffee. Actually, I'd visit with you a lot more, if I were asked. Its just that simpe. But, alas, friend Doc, there are a lot of places I'm not visiting nowadays.

Now, let's see. Question One: Yep, I've been in a rut for years . . . true, true. Naturally, I ran out of cash . . . several years back, but the paper of March 14th was designed to sell subscriptions. Money, Pappy, money!

Question Two: Hell, I've already answered that, haven't I?

Question Three: Nope.

Four: Can't.

Five: True, true. It ain't profitable.

As to the impression of the audience: Gracious me, Pappy. Whose impression, mine of them, or theirs of me?

Honestly, I have no impression of the audience. I didn't see 'em. You see, Doc, the whole thing was about like this: It was comparable in many ways to a lady in labor with her first child. After a long and hard labor, finally birth is given, and some kind, consoling soul says, "Well, the next one won't be half as bad." I'm like the mother who replies, "There ain't gonna be no next one."

Also, it compared, to some degree, with this business you've heard about a dying man, fighting every inch of the way, until finally, at the very last second, he welcomes death. I was scared to death for eight weeks, and finally, when facing the audience I was no longer scared . . . just petrified . . . which was a welcome relief of a sort.

The group was exceptionally courteous. None of them left the chapel . . . but I would have, had it been possible. As to the impact, Pappy, I fear there was none. The fault was mine, however, My delivery was just two degrees worse than lousy, believe me. I know nothing about the business of voice projection. Of course, I used a mike, but I knew less about mike technique. The result was, unquestionably, no one heard me. Mine is a soft, Dixiecrat voice, as you know. And the only

(Continued on Page 2)

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I have been so greatly encouraged by the many solicitations received lately to run again, that I have decided to announce my candidacy for Mayor in the forthcoming election, and will be gratefull for your vote and active influence in my behalf.

With all sincerity and humility, I feel that I am well qualified to make you a good mayor.

The next four years are going to be tremendously important in the life of our city. Mayor Moran Pope, and those who served before him, made Hattiesburg fine officials.

During the campaign I will submit a fine workable program, which will include the extension of our city limits. If Hattiesburg is to continue to grow and prosper and progress, we must extend the city limits and give the people of those outlying areas municipal services, such as fire protection, police protection, sewerage and water.

The splendid industrial expansion of previous administrations is evident to all of us; and truly, Hattiesburg is now the industrial hub of South Mississippi. It will be my purpose to continue this program of bringing new industries to our city and county. The prosperity and growth of Hattiesburg is important to all of us, and I will cooperate and work stead-

(Continued on Page 2)

FOR SALE

Have quantity of used lumber desirable for making crosses. 2x 4's well seasoned in 5 foot lengths. Kerosene furnished with orders of half dozen or more. Save on your cross burnings! Write Box 678, Petal, Miss. for full details. "How to Build Your Own Cross Kit" free with all orders." Act today . . . or tonight!

I prevailed upon the manager of a department store to shut the water off in his "white" water fountain and put up a sign, "Out-of-order". For the first day or two the "whites" were hesitant, but little by little they began to drink out of the water fountain belonging to the "colored";—and by the end of the third week everybody was drinking the "segregated" water; with not a single, solitary complaint to date.

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As I see it now the key to my Plan is to keep the "Out-of-Order" sign up for at least two years. We must do this thing gradually.

As Harry Golden Sees—

The Future Of Racial Segregation

During a debate on a bill to extend the franchise to all Englishmen, Benjamin Disraeli told the House of Commons:—"The time will come when the Chartists, (the sponsors of the bill), will discover that in a country so aristocratic as England every Reform, to be successful, must be patrician."

I think that to a large extent this is still true today in both England and our country.

When will racial segregation in the South be finally eliminated? The answer is fairly simple;—when the Chambers of Commerce, bankers, and manufacturers decide that the time has come for them to step in and settle the matter.

And then they will say what they have always said in similar situations:— "if you 'do-gooders' had only kept your big yaps shut, this would have been accomplished long ago!"

Now why will the "patricians" step in to eliminate racial segregation? Primarily because few people realize the true proportions of the Negro buying power of the South, and the potential increase in that buying power when economic and educational discrimination are eliminated.

Furthermore, the SEPARATE BUT EQUAL principle was maintained all these years only because the facilities were NOT in fact, —equal. But in order to strengthen the case for continued recial segregation there will be a more determined attempt to make those facilities not only "equal", but more so. In fact some of the new Negro schools in the larger cities are already better than the schools for the white students. But the maintenance of two truly EQUAL school and park systems is not a healthy prospect in terms of tax dollars, especially at a time when the South is experiencing so tremendous an industrial expansion.

There are other reasons which are even of more immediate importance. While there has not been any falling off in the flow of industry southward, the fear of "political uncertainty" will undoubtedly become a factor in this continued development. Neither must we rule out the probability that the Southerners will eventually become bored with the whole thing.

And what will happen to the "do-gooders" when the "patricians" step in and finally close the book on racial segregation? This, too, will follow a pattern well established in history. The Negro will

(Continued on Page 2)

East Side . . .

time I get an edge on it is when I am sore, and since my ulcer I don't get sore because my stomach hurts.

In talking with everyone who would listen before the address I was advised to "talk slow." I was told that a speaker could not speak too slow. Well, I talked slow. By golly, I even paused in the middle of words, I talked so slow. I think they thought was a speaker's pause, but it wasn't. I was pausing to count the speaker's pulse . . . which, I might add, was mighty slow at times.

Actually, the speech was a flop, thanks to me. I think the audience failed to understand what I was saying, primarily because they couldn't hear me.

Could they have heard me, I think they would have been with me . . . perhaps a good bit ahead. But, golly, what a speaker I am! About the pausing business, in the opening sentence, example, I read it like this: PRESI-DENTDENT. Stopped in the middle of the word President, thank you. But, hell, Pappy, I was out of breath.

And another thing, the business of reading from the written word is not the same as speaking the spoken word. But, you can well imagine, it just isn't safe to speak off the cuff, no matter if one is capable of doing it. Newspapers have messed up more speakers than you can imagine by quoting a sentence here and there . . . mostly out of context entirely. And in these days and times it isn't very safe unless you make yourself perfectly clear . . . and then it ain't too safe.

I did not mean to turn this letter into a sermon, mut this I would like to add, and that is the fact that what this country could use beside a good five-cent nickel is a bit of schooling for reporters on abstracting a speech. I know, of course, that such is not easy, but damnit, there is an obligation on the part of newspapers to get facts somewhere near correct. And beside that, it would help keep speakers alive a little longer.

Well, Pappy, that was the speech I delivered at Dillard University! I've not received another invitation since returning . . . not from Dillard.

And that sympathy to Billie and Karen . . . Pappy, that wasn't very nice.

Kindest regards,
pd

P.S.: Pappy, please pass the word of my availabliity for assorted assemblies, orphanage openings, wakes, and other diversified programs. Of course, friend, for a fee.
pde.

Of course, I've changed my mind again. Sunday I had a letter from Mrs. Sarah Patton Boyle at Charlottsville, Va. in which she said that the more one speaks the more confidence one gains, but that one's delivery doesn't improve to any appreciatable degree. And there went my ambition to be a speaker! As I told Patty in a letter to her, I'd not inflict my delivery on anyone, not

Letters

Hartford 5, Conn.
March 21, 1957

Mr. P. D. East, Editor
Petal Paper
Petal, Mississippi,

Dear Mr. East,

Having heard of your efforts to save civilization with a laugh, I am enclosing a check for $2.00 hoping that this will start the PETAL PAPER coming my way. If I qualify for subscription, would you bill me for a whole year.

I qualify to subscribe because my father's family are from the south. My granddaddy on his side was born in Baltimore. His daddy —that's my great granddaddy— was of Confederate smypathies during the war between the states and invested the family fortune in Confederate shinplasters. My granddaddy had to start all over again and moved up here where he ran an insurance company or something.

By the way my grandmammy is a Smith from Virginia, or was rather. I don't think it's the same Smith that was saved by that darkie, Pochohantas. My grandmammy never used that kind of language. She used to make Maryland Baptist cakes which are like hush puppies only they aren't made out of corn meal. You can't get them any more these days. She liked beaten biscuits and Smithfield hams. So does my father. My granddaddy was a real Southern gentleman. He liked Dickens, and, according to the late Governor "Uncle Toby" Cross of this state, he could recite Scripture to support any argument no matter how ridiculous it was. He liked bourbon and branch water, too.

One of my ancestors, collaterally, was a signer of the Declaration of Independence from North Carolina named Joseph Hewes. He died without issue I'm told, but he liked rum and a good cock-

lican of them all and a politician, Heavens above, to boot. That would be old Morgan G. Bulkeley who got the nickname of the "Crowbar Governor" when one time the legislature up here couldn't agree on who should be declared governor in a very close election. The Democrats up here just took the keys of the Capitol and declared their man elected because they had a majority in the Senate. Well, my great great uncle just called for some heavy men, and, as he was the previously-elected governor, he just broke down the doors with a crow bar and ran the state for the next two years out of his own pocket— that is out of the pocket of the Aetna Life Insurance Company which he ran. And so it is with my Mother's family.

Seems like every time, though, that you shake the family tree a nut drops out like myself.

As for me, like I said I'm a hybrid. I'm a life long Democrat. and I'd like to stay that way if you people down your way will permit me to do so. I like some Negroes, some Catholics, some Jews, and some white people. I'm an Iconoclast because I don't happen to like the present "Man in the White House." I liked little old Harry, myself. I like Augusta, Georgia very much, too, but not because of its golf. I liked its flowers and the people who were so hospitable to me when I was at Camp Gordon down there.

That's the South I like to remember, and through your paper I want to be reminded of those days. That's when Ellis Arnall was governor and not those redneck Talmadges. I like Hodding Carter who seems to be a neighbor of yours. I like the Atlanta Constitution, the Charlotte Ob- — Constitution, the Charlotte Observer, and such like because the Republicans can't pull the wool over their eyes.

I served in the United States Foreign Service until I couldn't stand it any more which was after Mr. Dulles took office. The finest man I knew in the service and the most intelligent and cul-

'Come South, Young Folks, Come South'

Show place of the South, the beautiful and exotic semi-tropical Mississippi Gulf Coast begins a round of vacationland events with the opening of the annual Spring pilgrimage at Biloxi. Biloxi the accepted vacation center, is the oldest French city in the United States. Swimming is afforded along a 27-mile sandy beach, largest in the world. Outstanding, of course, is the home of the only president of the Confederacy, Jefferson Davis' Beauvoir, located midway between Gulfport and Biloxi. The Biloxi Lighthouse, more than 100 years old, stands at the center of Biloxi, and still warns ships at sea of the low water sections that are dangerous to navigation.

Tung Trees Escape Bad Frost Injury

Mississippi and Picayune area tung crops apparently were the least affected by recent cold waves that swept through Mississippi and adjoining states. About a 15 per cent loss was felt in the overall tung belt, but indicated the worst damage was inflicted on Florida tung crops. Mississippi's loss could be determined at about 10 per cent, but some small isolated areas in the state including portions of Pearl River County, the heaviest growing area of tung in the nation, were heavily damaged with little or none to the remaining tung acreage.

Strawberries Are

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However, please state state the pay rate in your invitations.

Well, after all, I had to fill up the column with something, didn't I?

From Golden's Pen . . .

avoid the "do-gooder" like poison because he will be a constant "reminder" of his previous segregated status. Instead, the Negro will try desperately to curry favor with the "patrician" who took over the "movement" when it suited him. The Copts followed the same procedure with the French, and the Jews ignored the "Young England" liberals who got them the vote, and made a mad dash for the salons of the "patricians" who had fought them all the way. This is human nature. Like the fellow who got his start on Roosevelt's WPA and nearly always became the suburb's most ardent Republican manager.

But the "do-gooders" will not mind. By that time they'll be "agitatin'" for somthing else.

Pittman . . .

fastly with all interested organizations to bring more industrial growth to our city.

It is absolutely necessary that we do something about the parking problem in Hattiesburg. With the help of the traffic survey recently made in Hattiesburg, and the assistance of the business men and women of our city, we will solve this problem.

Hattiesburg is the trade center of a large area. We should assist these communities and towns in securing new industry for their localities.

I will work for a long range educational program. I believe that our greatest assets in our City are our boys and girls.

I have always worked for recreational facilities, beautiful city parks and playgrounds, and will continue to work to improve these facilities.

Hattiesburg is a good city in which to live, do business, and bring up a family. It is a city of churches, schools and culture. Here the newcomer will find all these things that make for pleasant living.

I will ever keep in mind that the burden of taxation is heavy, and that tax rates must be just—equal and not excessive.

I will work for and demand a good law enforcement.

Hattiesburg is a growing city, and if we are to keep our city a good place to have our families, much planning must be done in this connection. As your mayor, I would appoint a planning board and advisory committee to work with the Mayor and Commissioners in making appointments and planning for the future of our city.

I would work with and cooperate with the two commissioners in doing everything that would benefit our people and make Hattiesburg even a better place in which to live, prosper, and be happy.

I will appreciate your vote and influence.

Respectfully,
Claude Pittman

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One of my ancestors, collaterally, was a signer of the Declaration of Independence from North Carolina named Joseph Hewes. He died without issue I'm told, but he liked rum and a good cockfight.

You know the Declaration of Independence—how it says "All men are created equal only some are more equal than others." That's what he signed anyway because old Tom Jefferson, who was a slave holder, told him it was all right. Tom was something of a radical, 'though, and I don't know as I would want to be classed as a descendant of someone who knew him. You know what I mean. It wouldn't look good, that's all.

My granddaddy also was a very tolerant man. I once heard him say, "I don't object to riding on street cars with Republicans or to eating in the same restaurant as Republicans. But I do draw the line at inter-marriage." That's my grand-daddy.

Now I want to be very honest with you. While my daddy's side of the family are pure Southern as pure as Mountain Dew. I'm actually a hybrid. My mother's family are Black Republicans way back to the time when one of them founded the Puritan Congregational Church in Concord, Massachusetts and married into the Emerson family which later produced Ralph Waldo among others. This minister had a son who went to see King Charles II along with Increase Mather to tell him where to head in on behalf of the Massachusetts Bay Colony.

That's my mother's family all the way through. Rugged individualists from way back and free and easy with slinging their opinions around regardless of who the other guy is. I'm that way myself. My mammy's great uncle—that would be my great-great uncle—was the Blackest Republican flowers and the people who were so hospitable to me when I was at Camp Gordon down there.

That's the South I like to remember, and through your paper I want to be reminded of those days. That's when Ellis Arnall was governor and not those redneck Talmadges. I like Hodding Carter who seems to be a neighbor of yours. I like the Atlanta Constitution, the Charlotte Ob- — Constitution, the Charlotte Observer, and such like because the Republicans can't pull the wool over their eyes.

I served in the United States Foreign Service until I couldn't stand it any more which was after Mr. Dulles took office. The finest man I knew in the service and the most intelligent and cultured was a Negro from New Jersey, Herb Tate. The worst was his boss and mine—the ambassador, a rude corn-ball from Maryland. I hope Herb is still alive and kicking. I think the ambassador has kicked the bucket and may be having quite a time getting in Up There if that's where he wanted to go.

Do I qualify for a subscription or do you want one of my great grand daddy's shinplasters as proof of my Southern heritage?

Sincerely yours,
JAMES E. HEWES, JR.

Mrs. Hewes:

Indeed, for three bucks you can have a subscription. And for ten bucks you can have the whole damned paper!

pde.

Ruston, Louisiana
March 20, 1957

Mr. P. D. East
Editor, Petal Paper
Petal, Mississippi

Dear Mr. East:

I have recently read an article regarding yourself and your newspaper in a current issue of The Reporter. I am a native, white citizen of the South, a college professor of some fifteen years tenure in my present position.

In recent months I have gone out of my way to write letters of commendation to those fellow southerners of mine who have shown rare courage under fire. I have received some very gratifying responses.

I am happy to be able to express to you my delight in your very courageous struggle there in Mississippi. According to the article in The Reporter you derive a considerable compensation for your frustrations, in that people read your paper and gain a little extra courage for the troublesome times at hand. To be sure they do.

As to those of us, who never having read your paper, nor ever having heard of Petal, Mississippi, yet have strong feelings of sympathetic understanding for an obscure editor in an obscure place, who is so utterly outspoken against bigotry and so courageously devoted to justice.

Yours very truly,
Wallace Herbert.

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Strawberries Are Profitable Crop

Farmers of Mississippi may be missing a good financial bet by not planting more strawberries and/or the giant bosenberry, a sort of glorified tame blackberry. Last year Carlton Rutledge of Copiah County planted two and one half acres of strawberries, he harvested$3,000 worth of the fruit and had all his family could eat and can or deep-freeze for winter use. He has one acre of the bosenberries which go like hotcakes at public sale and make the best "blackberry" pie you ever tasted.

Rain, Snow Help Crop Prospects

The Agricultural Department reported that February weather and other developments affecting farm production were mainly favorable this year over major producing areas. Mild weather during the month saved feed, aided live stock production and pushed forage growth in early sections. The report said winter damage to crops appears light so far but added that danger from late freeze is not past, especially for some tree fruits and vegetable crops.

The average housewife will, in her lifetime, wash enough cooking and eating utensils to make about 70 stacks as high as the Empire State Building (102 stories high) in New York.

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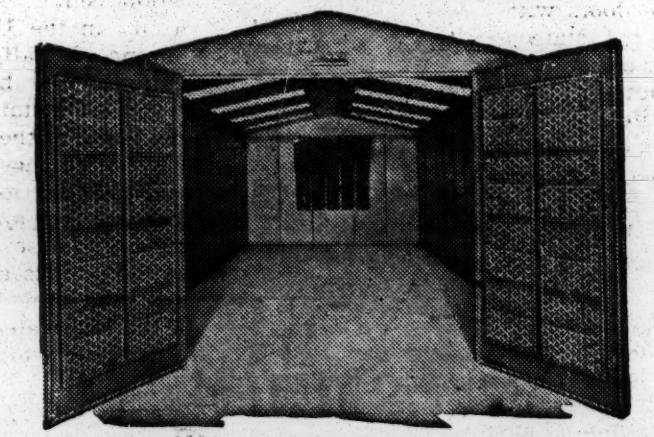

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DE SOTO APPROVED SERVICE PLYMOUTH

WDSU-TV

FRIDAY, MARCH 29—
6:00—Esso Reporter
6:15—World of Sports
6:30—Eddie Fisher
6:45—NBC News
7:00—Blondie
7:30—Life of Riley
8:00—On Trial
8:30—The Big Story
9:00—Cavalcade of Sports
9:45—The Leon Kelner Show
10:00—Highway Patrol
10:30—Luzianne Patio Playhouse
11:00—The World Tonight
11:20—The Late Show
12:45—Nitecap News & Sports Results
12:50—Prayer For Peace
SATURDAY, MARCH 30—
6:00—Golden Playhouse
6:30—People Are Funny
7:00—Perry Como
8:00—Caesar's Hour
9:00—George Gobel
9:30—I Search For Adventure
10:00—I Led Three Lives
10:30—Western Marshall
11:00—The World Tonight
11:20—The Late Show
12:45—Nitecap News & Sports Results
12:50—Prayer For Peace
SUNDAY, MARCH 31—
6:00—Tales of the 77th Bengal Lancers
6:30—Circus Boy
7:00—Steve Allen
8:00—Television Playhouse
9:00—Loretta Young Show
9:30—O. Henry Playhouse
10:00—Ozzie & Harriet
10:30—Navy Log
11:00—The World Tonight
11:20—The Late Show
12:45—Nitecap News & Sports Results
12:50—Prayer for Peace
MONDAY, APRIL 1—
6:00—Esso Reporter
6:15—World of Sports & Weatherman
6:30—John Gary
6:45—NBC News
7:00—Producer5s Showcase
8:30—Robert Montgomery Presents
9:30—Man Called X
10:00—Science Fiction Theatre
10:30—Playhouse of Stars
11:00—The World Tonight
11:20—The Late Show
12:45—Nitecap News & Sports Results
12:50—Prayer For Peace
TUESDAY, APRIL 2—
6:00—Esso Reporter
6:15—World of Sports & Weatherman
6:30—Jonathan Winters
6:45—NBC News
7:00—The Big Surprise
7:30—Noah's Ark
8:00—Pane Wyman Show
8:30—Circle Theatre
9:30—The Count of Monte Cristo
10:00—Celebrity Playhouse
10:30—Studio 57
11:00—The World Tonight
11:20—The Late Show
12:45—Nitecap News & Sports Results
12:50—Prayer for Peace
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 3—
6:00—Esso Reporter
6:15—World of Sports & Weatherman
6:30—Eddie Fisher
6:45—NBC News
7:00—Adventure of Hiram Holliday
7:30—Father Knows Best
8:00—Kraft Theatre
9:00—This Is Your Life
9:30—San Francisco Beat
12:45—Nitecap News & Sports Results
12:50—Prayer for Peace
THURSDAY, APRIL 4—
6:00—Esso Reporter
6:15—World of Sports & Weatherman
6:30—Dinah Shore
6:45—NBC News
7:00—Groucho Marx
7:30—Dragnet
8:00—People Choices'
8:30—The Ford Show
9:00—Lux Video Theatre
10:00—Stage 7
10:30—I Spy
11:00—The World Tonight
11:20—The Late Show
12:45—Nitecap News & Sports Results
12:50—Prayer for Peace

WDAM

CHANNEL 9

FRIDAY, MARCH 29—
6:00—News and Weather
6:15—Sports Today
6:30—An American Adventure
6:45—NBC News
7:00—Dangerous Assignment
7:30—The Life of Riley
8:00—TBA
8:30—Captured
9:00—Cavalcade of Sports
9:50—Red Barber's Corner
10:00—Sou. Bell Late News
10:05—The Late Show
SATURDAY, MARCH 30—
6:30—Jimmy Swan Show
7:00—Perry Como Show
8:00—Sid Caesar's Hour
9:00—George Gobel Show
9:30—The Aemerican Legend
10:00—The Late News
10:05—The Late Show
SUNDAY, MARCH 31—
5:30—Sunday Playhouse
7:00—Steve Allen Show
8:00—Highway Patrol
8:30—Million Dollar Premiere
10:00—The Late News
MONDAY, APRIL 1—
6:00—News and Weather
6:15—Sports Today
6:30—Nat 'King' Cole Show ....
6:45—NBC News
7:00—Sir Lancelot
7:30—Stanley
8:00—Ne wOrleans Police Dept.
8:30—My Little Margie
9:00—Lawrence Welk Show
10:00—Sou. Bell Late News
10:05—The Late Show
TUESDAY, APRIL 2—
6:00—News and Weather
6:15—The Movie Museum
6:30—Just Friends
6:45—NBC News
7:00—The Big Surprise
7:30—Science Fiction Theatre
8:00—Star Performance
8:30—Man Called X
9:00—Police Call
9:30—Hold That Note
10:00—The Late News
10:05—The Late Show
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 3—
6:00—News and Weather
6:15—Sports Today
6:30—Just Friends
6:45—NBC News
7:00—China Smith
7:30—Spring Fashion Show
7:45—Industry on Parade
8:00—Wrestling from Hollywood
9:00—Western Mrshal
9:30—Sherlock Holmes
10:00—Sou. Bell Late News
10:05—The Late Show
THURSDAY, APRIL 4—
6:00—News and Weather
6:15—The Movie Museum
6:30—Dinah Shore Show
6:45—NBC News
7:00—The Star and the Story
7:30—Dragnet
8:00—The Great Gildersleeve
8:30—TBA
9:00—Eddy Arnold Time
9:30—Mystery Theatre
10:00—The Late News
10:05—Lawrence Welk's Top tunes and New Talent

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BROADWAY DRIVE DIAL 3-4391

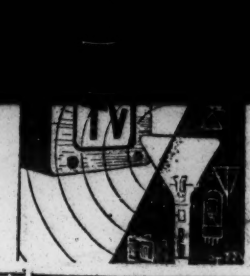
9:30—Robert Montgomery Presents
9:30—Man Called X
10:00—Science Fiction Theatre
10:30—Playhouse of Stars
11:00—The World Tonight
11:20—The Late Show
12:45—Nitecap News & Sports Results
12:50—Prayer For Peace

TUESDAY, APRIL 2—

6:00—Esso Reporter
6:15—World of Sports & Weatherman
6:30—Jonathan Winters
6:45—NBC News
7:00—The Big Surprise
7:30—Noah's Ark
8:00—Pane Wyman Show
8:30—Circle Theatre
9:30—The Count of Monte Cristo
10:00—Celebrity Playhouse
10:30—Studio 57
11:00—The World Tonight
11:20—The Late Show
12:45—Nitecap News & Sports Results
12:50—Prayer for Peace

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 3—

6:00—Esso Reporter
6:15—World of Sports & Weatherman
6:30—Eddie Fisher
6:45—NBC News
7:00—Adventure of Hiram Holliday
7:30—Father Knows Best
8:00—Kraft Theatre
9:00—This Is Your Life
9:30—San Francisco Beat
10:00—Douglas Fairbanks Presents
10:30—Dr. Hudson's Secret Journal
11:00—The World Tonight
11:20—The Late Show



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LOCAL CHURCH SERVICES

TEMPLE BAPTIST CHURCH, JACKSON STREET, PETAL

Services begin with Sunday School at 9:45 a.m., Bill Barlow, Supt. Preaching at 11 a.m. and 7:15 p.m. by Rev. Justin Garrett, pastor. Baptist Training Union meets at 6:15 p.m. Mid-week Prayer meeting is held at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday. GA's meet after school on Mondays, and RA's meet before prayer meeting on Wednesdays. Song services are under the direction of O. U. Barlow, Mrs. Jack Fikes, pianist.

Church nursery open at all services.

PETAL METHODIST CHURCH, MAIN STREET, PETAL

Services begin with Sunday School at 9:45 a.m., W. C. Mathis, Superintendent.

Rev. J. P. Payne, Pastor, preaches at 11:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.

WSCS meets at 2:00 p.m. on Mondays.

Mid-Week Prayer Meeting is held at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesdays. Choir practice follows prayer meeting.

Song services are under the direction of Mrs. B. L. Coulter; Mrs. D. H. Halliwell, Sr., Organist.

The public is cordially invited to attend. The nursery is open at all services.

GREEN'S CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH, OLD RICHTON ROAD, PETAL

Services begin at 9:45 a.m. with Sunday School, Robert Powell, Supt.

Q. C. Barrett, Pastor, preaches at 11:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.

Prayer Meeting is 7:00 p.m. on Wednesdays . . . following prayer meeting all organizations meet . . . YWA's, GA's, RA's, WMU, Brotherhood, and Sunbeams.

Song services are under the direction of W. C. Rainey, Jr.; pianist is Miss Polly Morgan.

The public is extended a cordial invitation to attend services. Nursery is open at all services.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, CENTRAL AVENUE, PETAL

Services begin with Sunday School at 9:45 a.m. Henry Hardy, Supt.

Rev. W. A. Richardson, Pastor, preaches at 11 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.

Baptist Training Union meets at 6:30 p.m. Sundays.

Mid-Week Prayer meeting is held at 7:00 p.m. Wednesdays.

Song services are under the direction of Mr. Ford Parker; Mrs. J. M. Van Devender, pianist.

The public is cordially invited to attend.

Nursery is open at all services.

PETAL-HARVEY BAPTIST CHURCH,

Services will begin with Sunday School at 9:45 a.m., Pat Rogers, Supt.

Rev. Sam W. Waggener, Pastor, preaches at 11 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.

Training Union meets at 6:45 p.m., C. E. Richardson, Director.

Mid-Week Prayer meeting is held at 7:30 pm. Wednesdays at Richton Road and Harvey Mission prayer meeting is held 7:30 p.m. Thursdays.

Song services are under the direction of Mr. Charles Caulkin; Mrs. W. H. Clearman, Organist, and Mrs. Mazie Nell Smith, pianist.

The public is cordially invited to attend; the nursery is open at all services.

PETAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH MAIN STREET, PETAL

Services begin at 10:00 a.m. with Sunday School, H. L. Norsworthy, Supt.

Evangelist Howard S. Williams preaches at 11.00 a.m.

Bible Class meets Sunday from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. Choir practice is held Wednesday nights at 7:30.

Song services are under the direction of Mrs. D. L. Priest; pianist is Miss Bernice Norsworthy.

A cordial invitation is extended the public to attend services each Sunday.

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To Discuss "Mississippi's Tax Dollar"

The four recognized leaders above will participate in a symposium on "Mississippi's Tax Dollar" as a phase of the morning program at the annual meeting of the Mississippi Economic Council in Jackson on Tuesday, April 16. Members of the panel, from left to right, and the subjects they will discuss are: Senator Earl Evans of Canton, president pro tem of the State Senate, public welfare: William Winter, state tax collector, ways and means; G. J. Cain, director of finance and administration, Department of Education, education; and Don Colmer of Hattiesburg, former legislator and state representative of the Portland Cement Association, highways.

The symposium is part of a two-phase program during the morning. Running simultaneously with the symposium will be a "Workshop For Volunteer Leadership," led by Dwight Havens of the national Chamber of Commerce. Roe Bartle, mayor of Kansas City, will be the luncheon speaker, while Hamilton Moses, Little Rock attorney and former president of the Arkansas Power & Light Co., will speak at the banquet. The public is invited.

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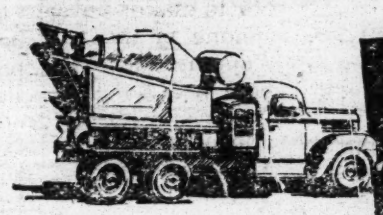

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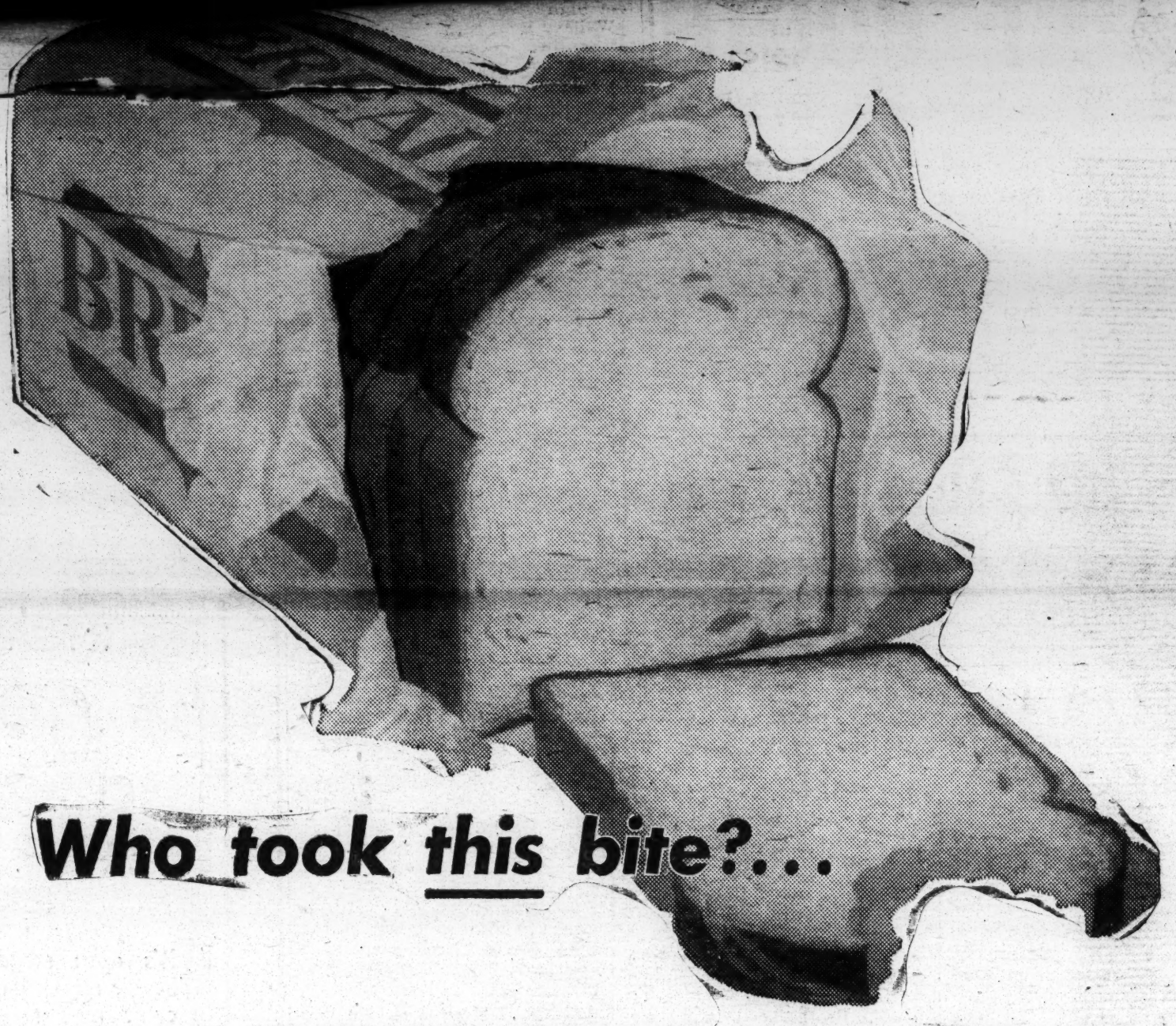

Who took this bite?...

NOT YOU—but chances are you *paid* for it! For this is the freight excise "tax bite" that comes out of practically everything you buy, long before you buy it. Here's what happens...

Every shipper who uses public for-hire transportation, right down the line from original producer to ultimate consumer, must pay a tax on the freight charges. Naturally, each one normally tries to "pass it on" to the next fellow. This works fine until it gets to you, the consumer. You can't pass the taxes on. So you foot the bill in higher prices for what you buy.

This tax on freight charges and its companion tax on passenger fares were imposed by the government as temporary emergency measures during World War II, to raise money for war and to discourage the use of overburdened public transportation facilities. Yet they are still with us, costing consumers hundreds of millions of dollars annually and bearing most heavily on those least able to afford them.

We urge in the public interest that sincere consideration be given *now* to the repeal of these unfair and discriminatory "temporary" taxes that arbitrarily penalize the users of our service, act as a drag on the flow of business and ultimately inflate the price of almost everything you buy.

Harry A. DeButts
President

THE SOUTHERN SR SERVES THE SOUTH

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WASHINGTON, D. C.

Long Distance Addition Here

Substantial evidence that Hattiesburg and surrounding area is growing can be found at 100 Brunie Street.

This is the address of Southern Bell Telephone Company where some form of new construction or improvement is almost always in progress.

Currently the local telephone technicians are installing nine new switchboard positions where long distance calls are answered and handler.

Each position consists of a section of switchboard with access to numerous long distance circuits. Each position has a timing device and the necessary keys to enable an operator to dial or pulse almost any telephone in the nation direct. The operator in most cases presses about a dozen keys or buttons and rings a distant telephone 30 or 3000 miles away. No other assistance or distance operator is involved.

A brief talk with Mrs. Sue Quint, Chief Operator, turned up the following facts:

(1) Hattiesburg is Mississippi's second largest long distance center.

(2) On an average day, Hattiesburg operators receive about 5000 long distance calls. This summer with Camp Shelby's added activity, the total may reach 6000 — the highest figure ever.

(3) Hattiesburg's operators handle all long distance connections for 13 surrounding and nearby cities. They are Baxterville, Beaumont, Collins, Columbia, Lumberton, McLain, Mt. Olive, Picayune, Poplarville, Purvis, Seminary, Sumrall and Wiggins. Also three independent telephone companies are furnished long distance connectors from the local office. They are Bassfield, Prentiss, and New Augusta.

Some other facts can be gathered from F. A. McRae, Western Electric Supervisor. Mr. McRae and his 19 Western Electric Installers are connecting the new equipment. When completed in late April, there will be a total of 48 positions. Adding the nine new positions will cost about $50,000 and require 4000 man hours and thousands of connections.

The Western Electric Installers are using over 500 blueprints as guides to make the intricate and delicate connections. If all the blueprints were placed in one stack they would tower about 5 feet high.

Wallace Bunn, district manager for Southern Bell said, "The new positions are being added to meet the demands of long distance users in the greater Hattiesburg area. We feel an addition of this size is substantial evidence of the economic growth of our area."

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Tatum Attending Medical Meeting

Dr. A. T. Tatum of Petal is attending a meeting of more than 5,000 family doctors in Kiel Auditorium, St. Louis, Mo. Doctors from every part of the country have registered for the American Academy of General Practice Ninth Annual Scientific Assembly. The academy, headquartered in Kansas City, Mo., has more than 22,000 members and is the nation's second largest medical association.

Dr. Tatum will have an opportunity to hear 29 of the nation's top medical authorities discuss new developments and progress in the fields of therapy and diagnosis. He will also see 84 scientific and 280 technical exhibits that report research results and display new drugs, instruments and equipment.

The Academy is the only medical association which requires every member to continue his medical education. Rapid medical progress, the academy believes, makes it necessary for the doctor to keep learning. For this reason, every member must complete 50 hours of postgraduate study per year.

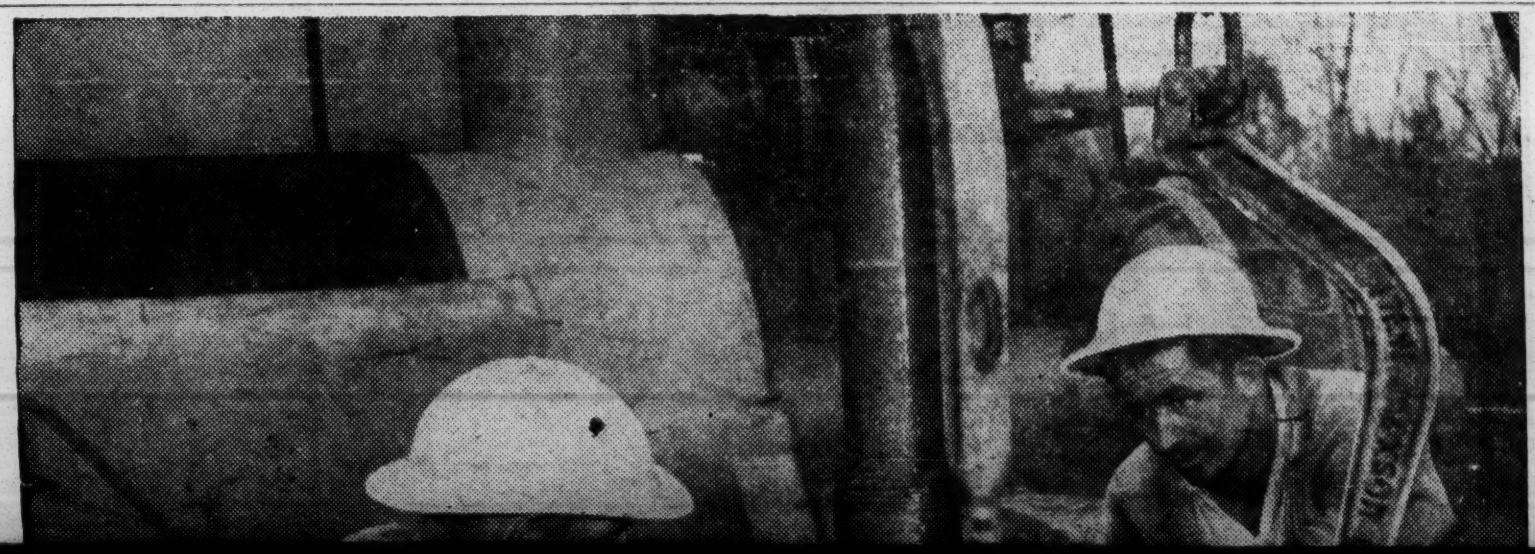
Information On Social Security

By Luther N. Davis

Farm landowners as well as sharecroppers may now be self-employed for social security purposes. The income a farm landowner receives from a share-farming agreement is covered by a recent change in the social security law IF the rental agreement calls for the farmer to take an important part in the operation of the farm and he actually does so.

This provision of the new law is met if the farmer participates to a material degree in the production or management of a crop or livestock on land he rents. Sharecroppers have been covered as self-employed since the beginning of 1955. The new law covering landowners applies to all types of farm rental arrangements including cash rent, standing rent, share rental and share-farming arrangements.

The landowner who materially participates in the operation of his farm should report his net earnings for 1956 for social security purposes at the time he files his income tax return after the close of the year. Farmers who would like more information regarding this new phase of the law should contact their nearest social security office.



The 25-mile long steel submarine net the Germans set up between Jutland and Zeeland in World War II has been sold to West Germany and is being melted down for scrap in Kiel.

The Petal Paper

Entered as second class matter April 3, 1954, at the Post Office at Petal, Mississippi, under Act of March 3, 1879.
Reentered at Pascagoula, Miss.

TELEPHONE DIAL 4-8613
P. D. EAST ..... Editor

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Cut Flowers
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Wreaths

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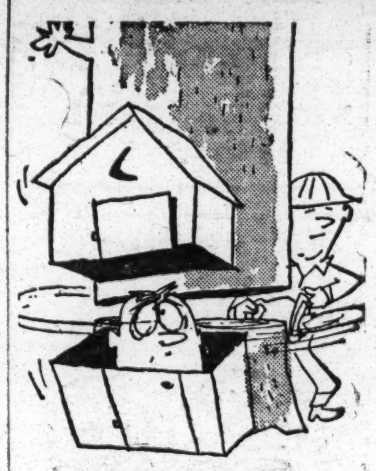

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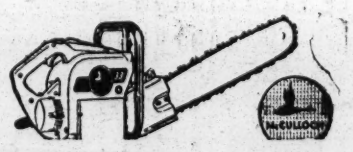

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ALONG THE R. F. D.

By Rose Budd Stevens

SHIVAREE for newly wedded couple was delightfully wild, exciting experience.

I would certainly be glad when the plowing in the west forty would be done for Big Ben and Little Annie were going to get married. Already their snug house stood among the whispering pines at the edge of the upper place; brand new with a blue front door and door steps that were solid heart pine.

The spring sun had been hot enough to draw the resin out of the steps and great strings of gleaming red dripped earthward, and blobs raised up and hardened on the steps. Finally blisters were formed on top of the blobs and brother and I crushed them in when we went from the big house to Little Annie's new house to see about her setting hens, about mid-afternoon.

There was a pig in a clean new peeled pine pole pen; a wee fellow hardly big enough to reach the minute trough in one corner; the pig was a pre-wedding present, for the giver didn't see the need to keep the pig and lit it suckle his sow when Big Ben and Little Annie had three cows with new babies by their sides, and didn't Little Annie brag about how thick the cream was every morning when she went to her soon-to-be own home to tend to things.

Feeding the pig was our pleasure, for he was a sunning fellow, a twisty tail that curled counter clockwise, little hooves so sharp they almost cut the blood when I let him run up and down my legs. His little nose was pink and freckled and how he grunted when his tummy was full.

Came the last Friday in May when things had shaped up so the wedding could take place. We stripped the yard and even entured into the grave yard for roses and lilies to deck the house of the to-be wedded couple. Little Annie had everything new in the way of clothes and Big Ben was bursting with pride over his new suit that had been ordered off for.

Mama and many of the women who live on the place had baked pies and cakes for several days; layer, stack, pound and sad ones. Pies were open, cross crust, covered and custard. There were chicken pies in dishpans, and a great array of pickles, relishes and dessert peaches in cut glass dishes.

Cousin Zack Broadmoore came on his white mule and the wedding went off in great style. Little Annie's mother snubbed and sniffled the whole time, because she knew now that she would have to get up and start doing for herself. Little Annie had been the one to cook and bottle wash for ten years.

After the wedding, mama and daddy went over Liberty way to a meeting and left my brother and me with Uncle Jack and his wife Marianna, who had been handyman and nursemaid around the Budd household for many years, before I was born. Marianna kept helping mama get ready so they could be gone before supper; she even packed a little basket for a lunch to eat while daddy drove along in his Model T.

No sooner had they turned the curve above the pine forest than Marianna broke the good news to us that she was going to take us to the shivaree at the newly wedded couples' house that night.

About seven o'clock we began to get ready; Marianna hunted around and found my old tambourine, brother was going to take a pig to pull its tail and make it squeel . . . Uncle Jack took the old copper pickle kettle and a bell slapper to bang it with. Marianna took a tin dishpan and a big cook spoon, as we went out the door she gave me the dinner bell to ring.

As we went down the road towards the newlyweds' house, colored people joined us, some carrying shovels, old cow bells, bent foot tubs, pieces of tin with fire tongs for beating thereon. Uncle Simon Pipkin brought along his fiddle with two strings, he couldn't play a note but could make awful screeching sounds and noises.

Big Blue Bill brought three dogs and a strong stick to beat them with so they would howl to the high heavens . . . several more had pigs to make squeeling sounds. We had a wonderful time we screeched and yelled, screamed as loud as we could and not once did someone say, "Rose Budd hush your big mouth, try to act like a young lady.

Sweetly be,

ROSE BUDD.

The home of Gilbert Stuart, noted painter of portraits of George Washington, still stands at Wickford, Rhode Island.

New Zealanders consume an annual average of 216 pounds of meat per person, as compared to 161 pounds per person in the United States.

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1955 Ford Four Door

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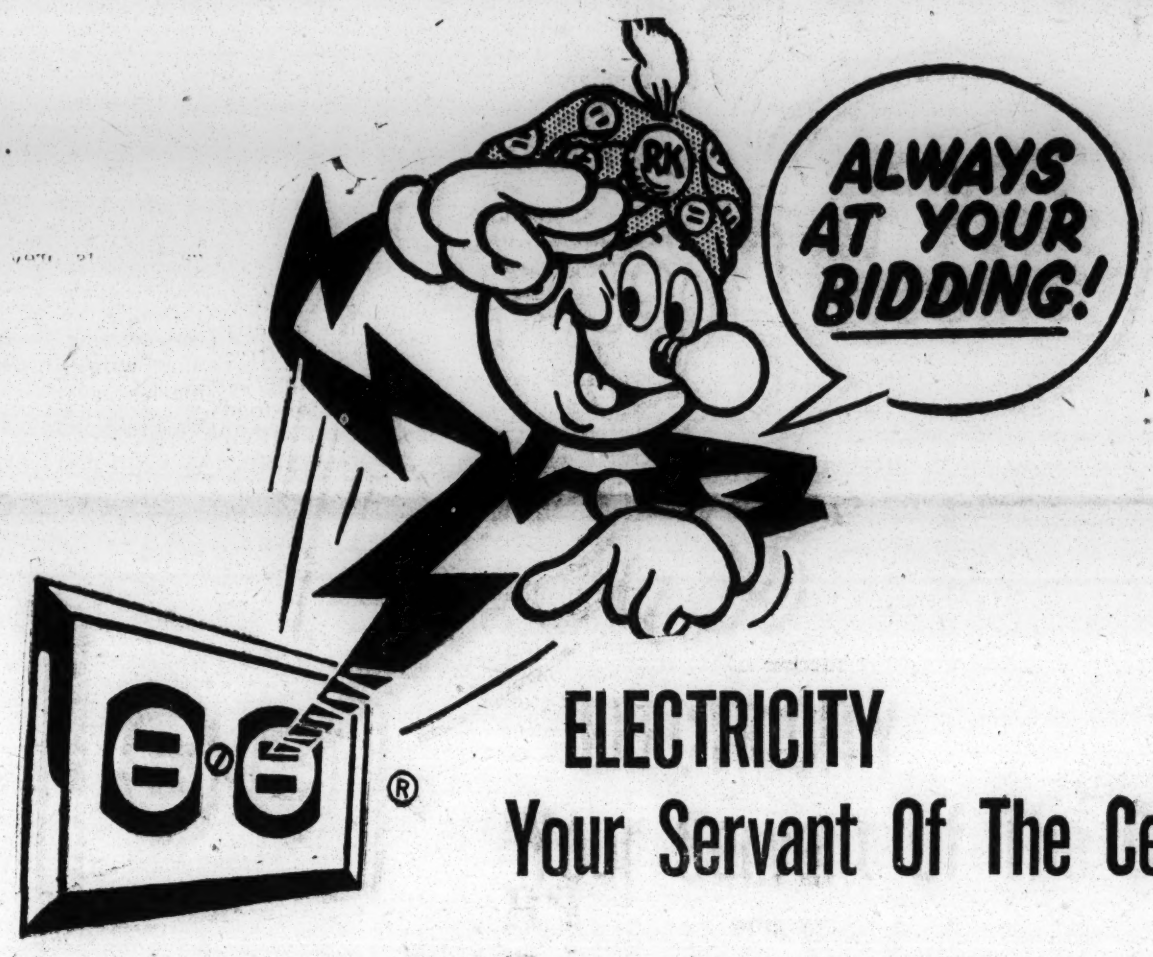

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THE WORLD OF NATURE

by
John M. Frazier, Conservationist
Mississippi Southern College

Owl Adoptations

Owls have been observed and used by man since ancient times. Some of the uses have been of questionable value since they were not based on favorable scientific evidence. Writings and drawings about owls extend into the earliest period of recorded history. They were important enough to rate a place on Greek coins about 400 years Before Christ. Sometimes they were ascribed supernatural powers.

Some of th euses were pure superstition and of no real value. One may find a few superstitious people today who have unfounded beliefs about the appearance of owls if there is sickness in the home. To them, the presence of an owl is an ill omen.

Literature has numerous references to the Owl. Shakespeare has Macbeth to mention the owl before he killed Duncan, "It was the owl that shriek'd, the fatal bellman, which gives the sternest goodnight". In Hamlet the belief in re-incarnations is found in this line—"They say the owl was a baker's daughter".

Other wrtersi have presented the owl in a better light. Thomas Draxe, in BIBLIOTHECA, in 1633 says "An owl is the king of the night". Sir Philip Sidney, in A REMEDY FOR LOVE—"O you virtuous owl, The wise Minerva's only fowl". Again, this is an erroneous idea. The owl is of limited intelligence. There are several birds that rank higher than it does.

Modern Attitude

Since people have tuurned to the more objective method of investigation, experimentation, and arriving at logical conclusions most of the erroneous ideas have fallen by the wayside. We now know that the owl has adaptations which are suited to taking care of its own needs in its normal environment, but no supernatural or magic powers.

Through scientific investigation, it has been determined that owls are a most vital link in the conservation chain. The owls as a group are one of the greatest factors in the control of rodents. This is shown by an anaylsis of the pellets of undigested material as bones, hair, shells, and feathers which are regurgitated by owls after the digestable nutrients have been removed.

A single owl may consume several hundred rodents per year. The investagation reveals that the of owls is entirely of animal origin, that most of it is rodents, and they eat very few beneficial animals.

After we learn to identify the species of owls by their notes, there is a charm to their songs which one may enjoy occosionally at night during much of the year. They sing for us occasionally as they guard our food harvest and other supplies from rats, mice, flying squirrels and other rodents.

Seeing

There are about 525 known species of owls in the world, the great majority which are noctrnal in habits.u They are distributed from the tropics to the NNorthern limits of coniferous forest, and from marshes to deserts. Their food consists chiefly of small animals found in relative abundance in their environments.

Since most owls hunt for food at night, they have to be equipped with special means for finding and a large opening for detecting sounds. The ears are hidden under the feathers, but sound seems to be able to pass through the loose, fluffy feathers.

In flight, the ears and eyes of the owl are turned towards the ground. A small animal can be seen or heard and located. This makes it difficult for the prey to escape.

Movements

The owlw is adapted for perching on a tree ranch to watch. It can turn its head through an angle of 270 degrees. This exceeds man's ability by 90 degrees. The owl is abble to do this by virtue of its 14 vertebrae in the neck. Man can turn through 180 degrees with only 7 vertebrae in his neck. The owl, when watching a moving object, can return its head to a former position with great rapidity. This is how the erroneous idea arose that they could and would twist their heads off by turning around.

he sudden dart of the owl to capture its prey is done silently. There is no swishing of the wings through the air to be heard by the victim. Instead of having hard wing lines, the leading primaries are covered with soft down to prevent noise.

The four toes of owls can be turned forward or one or two

Hearing

The owl has a sense of hearing which is about as acute as that of seeing. In order to locate its prey, the owl has to be able to pick up the patter of rat and mouse feet on leaves or the rustle of grass.

Unlike other irds, the owl has a large outer ear made of folded skin and a large opening for detecting sounds. The ears are hidden under the feathers, but sound seems to be able to pass through the loose, fluffy feathers.

owl occupies more space in its skull than its rain. This is a clue to its importance.

The pupil is very small in daylight ut at night the iris is drawn back to let in many times more light. Owls are able to see rats, mice, flying squirrels, rabbits, and other animals at long distances. The cornea of the owl's eye is flexible and is made to change to adjust the eye to the distance. The lens does not change its focal length as in the human eye.

'Rebel Platoon' At San Diago

Mississippi's specially-recruited Marine "Rebel Platoon' has reached the midway portion of 11 weeks' training here at the Marine Corps Recruit Depot. This week (March 18) they began their first of three weeks on the rifle range.

The platoon will do its shooting at Camp Matthews, 12 miles north of the Recruit Depot. The Mississippi recruits arrived here in typical infantry fashion — on foot with packs on their backs. They had hiked to the range from a San Diego fringe residential area. For the more than 50 "Rebels", this was the first of three long hikes which augment a continuing physical conditioning program during training.

At the range they will find life a little different.

Here they learn why Marines refer to the M-1 rifle as their "best friend." They also acquire colorful jargon that accompanies firing procedure. The earth and concrete embankment in front of the line of targets is called the "butts." Those who work behind the embankment, pulling targets, are working "in the butts."

"Mark three" becomes a quick way of saying, "Show where the last shot (or shots) hit in target number three." And a round marker visible to the shooter is punched into place, or a red "Maggie" flag is waved in front of the target to show the target was missed.

Range life is their first taste of any resemblance to field Marine training. And it serves the "Rebels" as an overture to the advanced infantry training at Camp Pendleton, further up-coast, after graduation May 1st.

They are impressed with safety at the range. The lessons learned here will stay with them the rest of their life: safe handling of weapons and safety precautions in the use of weapons.

They will fire the Browning

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Since most owls hunt for food at night, they have to be equipped with special means for finding it. The chief sense organ used in this progress is the eye. Eyes have to be adapted to seeing at night. Their eyes differ from most other birds in that they have inocular vision. Their eyes are at the front of thehead rather than on the sides. They are directed forward and serve as a range finder. Either eye of an

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he sudden dart of the owl to capture its prey is done silently. There is no swishing of the wings through the air to be heard by the victim. Instead of having hard wing lines, the leading primaries are covered with soft down to prevent noise.

The four toes of owls can be turned forward or one or two can be turned backward. This helps in perching and in grasping the prey.

Owls are among our most interesting friends.

NOT SO FUNNY

Lander, Wyo. — When Bartender Jack Clark opened the tavern where he works, he looked up and there—4 feet away—was a mountain lion, crouched ready to spring Clark scaled the side of a cooler cabinet, backward. Jokesters entered and rescued Clark. Belatedly, they told him the lion had been shot by local hunters, frozen into a crouched position and placed in the bar during the night.

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They will fire the Browning Automatic Rifle (BAR), that Marines rely upon so heavily in assault and defense, the M-1 rifle and the pistol.

The majority of their time at the range will be concentrated on proper use and care of the M-1 rifle. They will learn the proper sling adjustments and sight alignments, develop muscles to help them conform to proper firing positions sitting, kneeling and prone They learn that in addition to providing rapid fire power, the M-1 can be accurately used in slow fire.

The "Rebels," like hundreds of other recruits training on the range at the same time, will strive to develop their marksmanship.

I Wish I Could Sing A Happy Song

I wish that I could sing a happy son, as children sing
Like songbirds, on that first warm day of spring.
But desolation shrouds once fertile hills and vales, and,
Old fields lie stark-naked now, ravished by the wind and rain,
Abandoned all, by those whom once their lush abound-ance fed.
Gaunt white fingers, pointing ever upward, from small vine-covered piles of rock
Are all that show where glowing hearths once warmed
The hearts of human kin.

Was it for this we drove the red-man
Ever westward down that tragic trail of tear;
That we might rape with plow, axe, fire, and reaper's blade
The virgin bloom from this land's once virgin womb?
If it be so, 'twere better far they had remained,
And we had never come.

I wish that I could sing a happy sound of hope.
Oh God! Forgive me for this bitter wail of black despair.

E. M. Gleason, Jr.

Tommy takes a long view

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